The Alabama RSM Workgroup And The Gulf of Mexico Alliance Habitat Conservation & Restoration Team Gulf-wide Regional Sediment Master Plan

USACE RSM Policy and Implementation Workshop

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The Alabama RSM Workgroup: Our Team

- USACE-Mobile District
- AL Dept. of Cons. & Nat. Resources
  - State Lands, State Parks & Marine Resources Divs.
- AL Dept. of Env. Management-Coastal Section
- USFWS
- NMFS
- AL State Docks
- MBNEP
- Local Communities (Ex: City of Orange Beach)

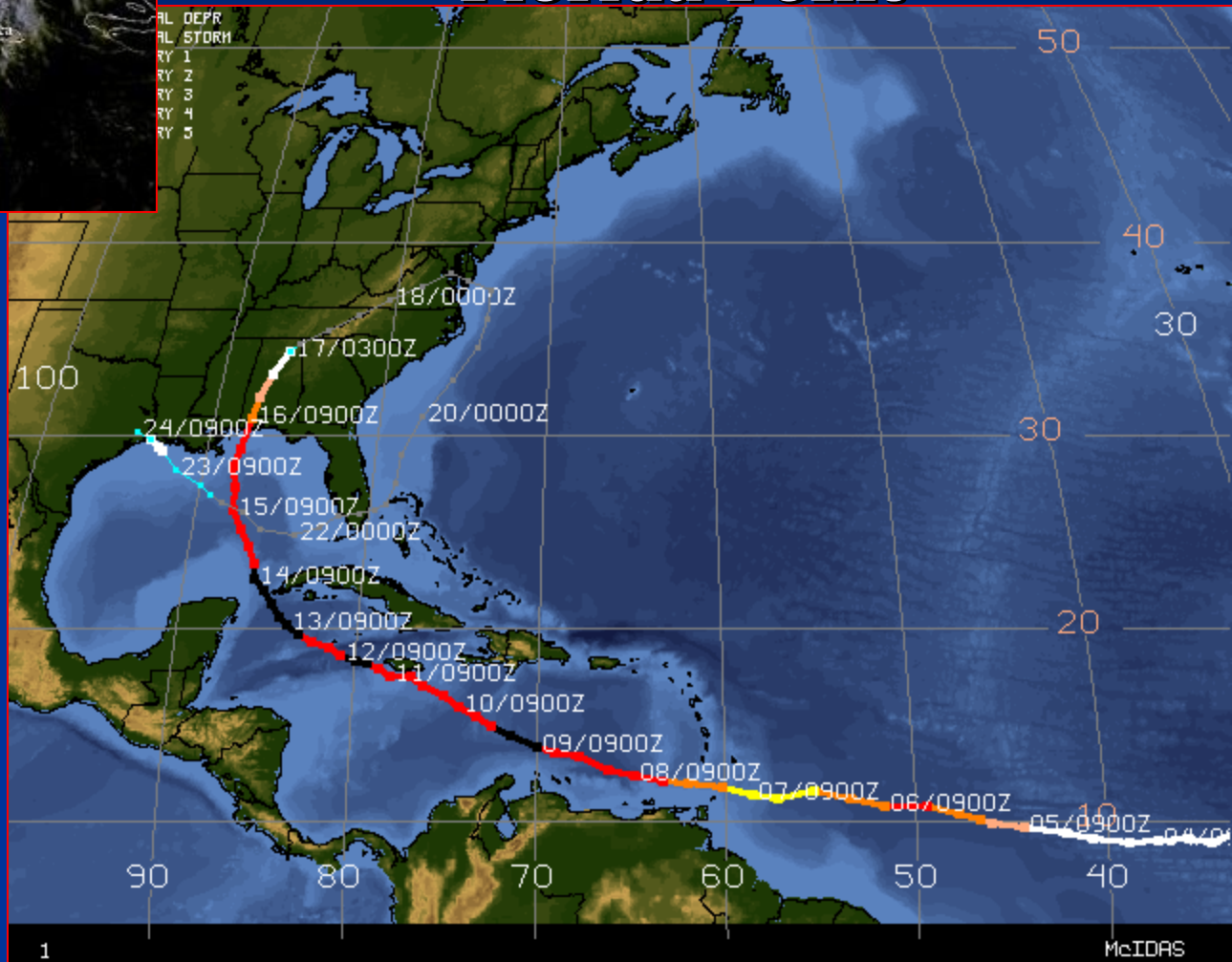
The Alabama RSM Workgroup: Our Projects

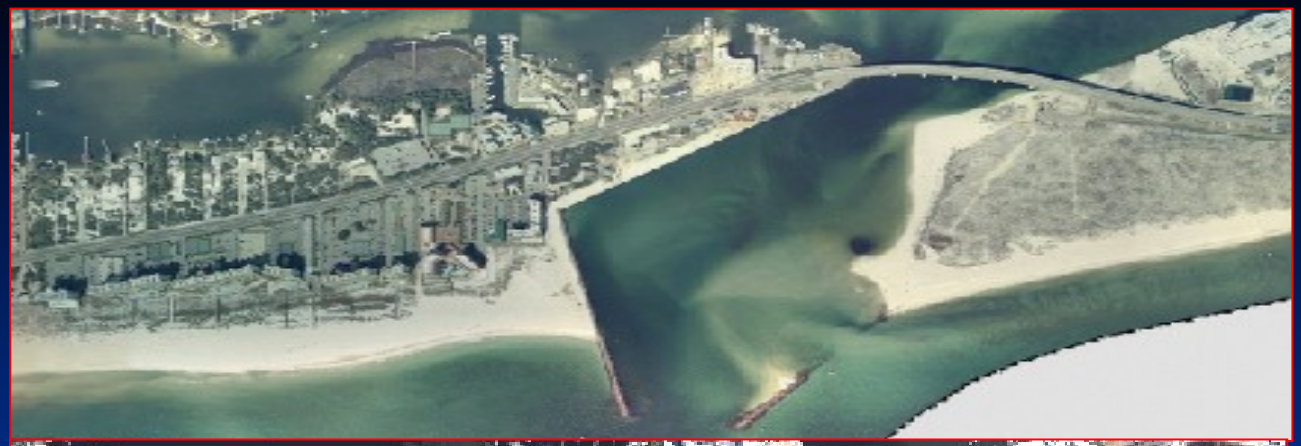
- Sand Island Beneficial Use Area (Post-Hurricane Georges)
- Perdido Pass RSM Demonstration Project (Great Learning Experience!)
- Post-Ivan Florida Point Restoration Project (ASBPA Best Restored Beach Award)
- Perdido Pass DA 8 Development and Cert. (3 Mile Long Gulf-front DA)
- Arlington Channel/Brookley Area BU

The Alabama RSM Workgroup In Action: The Post-Ivan Restoration Of Florida Point

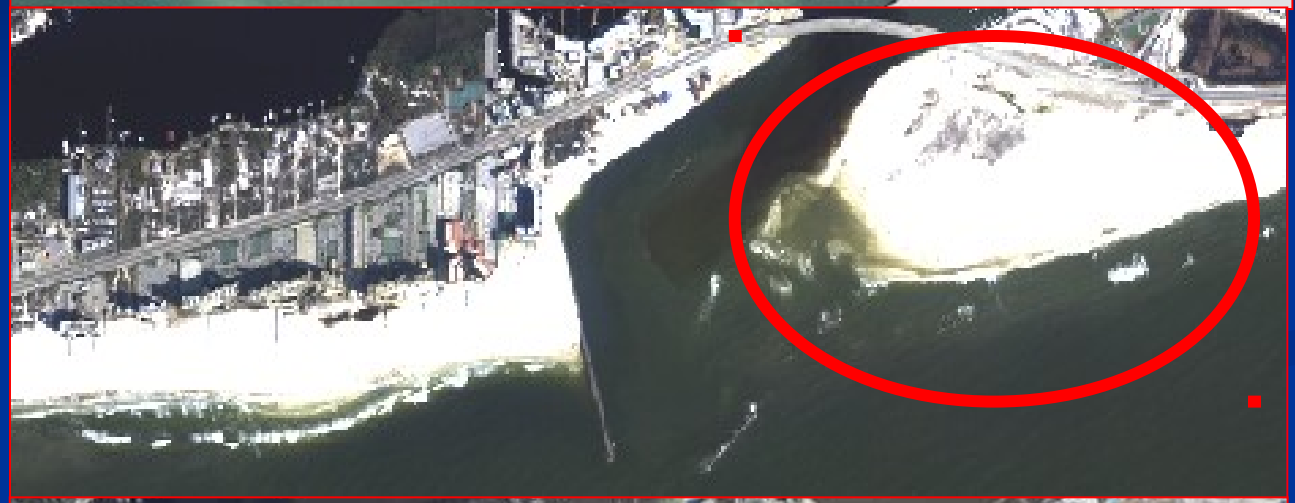
Ivan Landfall:

September 16, 2004
Gulf Shores, AL
Effect on Perdido Pass Nav. Proj.: Jetty & Weir Severely Damaged.
Over 560,000 yards of sand in the Pass.
Insufficient Disposal Area





Florida Point, AL Pre-Ivan



Post-Ivan

Post Restoration

Alabama RSM Workgroup Post-Ivan Call to Action:

- Early Nov. 2004: Discussions on dredging & repairing the Perdido Pass Project begins.
- Huge Issue: Not enough DA capacity.
- USFWS Rep. recommends restoration of dunes on Florida Point Unit of Gulf State Park.
- Late Nov.: RSM Workgroup meets on-site.

AL RSM Workgroup : Teamwork in Action

- **Project Completed in Less than 4 Months.**
- **How?**
- **TEAM WORK!**
  - Professional Relationships.
  - All Partners were Committed to the Project.
  - Regulatory Flexibility.
  - Constructive Comments, No Nay-Sayers.

The Gulf of Mexico Alliance Habitat Conservation & Restoration Team Gulf-wide Regional Sediment Master Plan

STATE LANDS DIVISION ALABAMA GREAT SEAL

GULF OF MEXICO ALLIANCE

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

The Gulf of Mexico Alliance Background:

- **Initiated in 2004 by the states of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas.**
- **A goal of “significantly increasing regional collaboration to enhance the environmental and economic health of the Gulf of Mexico”.**
- **Collaboration with the six Mexican Gulf of Mexico states has been initiated.**

The Gulf of Mexico Alliance Background:

Governors' Action Plan for Healthy and Resilient Coasts **was released at the State of the Gulf of Mexico Summit on March 28 - 30, 2006. Five priority issues represent a focus for initial action through the Alliance:**

- **Water quality**
- **Wetland and Coastal Conservation and Restoration**
- **Environmental Education**
- **Identification and Characterization of Gulf habitats**
- **Nutrient Inputs to Coastal Ecosystems.**

Resiliency has since been added as a 6th priority issue.

GOMA
Habitat Conservation and Restoration Priority Issue Team

- The HCRT is responsible for implementing the Habitat Conservation and Restoration Action Items contained in the Governors Action Plan.
- The HCRT has been very active and includes members from all Gulf States, Federal Agencies, NGOs as well as representatives from Mexico.
- The creation of a Gulf-wide RSM Master Plan is a key action item for the HCRT.

Gulf-wide RSM Master Plan: Background

- The HCRT Team working on the GRSMMP includes many USACE reps, HCRT State & Federal Leads, USGS, USFWS, other Federal Agency Reps and NGO reps (Primarily TNC).
- It is in rough draft form at this time.
- It is intended to provide a guide or template for the implementation of RSM Principles across the Gulf of Mexico.
- Not intended to develop individual project plans.

Gulf-wide RSM Master Plan: Table of Contents

- GLOSSARY OF TERMS
- 1.0 INTRODUCTION
- 2.0 GULF OF MEXICO PROCESSES
- 3.0 FOCUS AREAS
- 4.0 MANAGING GULF SEDIMENTS IN THE FUTURE
- 5.0 REFERENCES

Gulf-wide RSM Master Plan: Section Detail

- **2.0 GULF OF MEXICO PROCESSES**
  - **Gulf of Mexico Geologic History**
  - **Gulf of Mexico Hydrodynamics**
  - **Gulf of Mexico Sediment Sources**
  - **Gulf of Mexico Geomorphology**
  - **Gulf of Mexico Relative Sea Level Change**

Gulf-wide RSM Master Plan: Section Detail

- **3.0 FOCUS AREAS**
  - **Ecological Considerations**
    (Very complex section, is being contracted.)
  - **Sediment Resources**
    - **Sediment Budget Inventory**
    - **Sediment Inventories**
    - **Dredging Activities Inventory**
    - **Other Suggested Sediment Relates Efforts**
  - **Information Management**
  - **Policies, Authorities, and Funding**

Gulf-wide RSM Master Plan: Section Detail

- **4.0 MANAGING GULF SEDIMENTS IN THE FUTURE**
  - **Next Steps**
  - **Characteristics of Successful GRSMMP Implementation**
  - **Roles in Implementing the GRSMMP**
  - **Recommendations from Focus Areas to the Plan**
  - **Integrate Environmental, Economic, and Social Considerations in Sediment Management.**
  - **Action List**
  - **Priorities**

Gulf-wide RSM Master Plan: Final Comments

- **Remember that this is a State-driven process and it will be a GOMA document.**
- **Will contain Policy, Funding and Regulatory Recommendations, including changes to the “Federal Standard”.**
- **May change name to reflect that it is more of a “Framework” than a “Plan”**
- **Implementation will require teamwork across the Gulf.**

Comments, Questions & Discussion

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